Polluting Industries

5587. SHRI SOM PAL :
SHRI SARADA MOHANTY :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news report published in the Indian Express dated 3rd March, 1934 saying "Polluting industries to be let off the hook"; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reactions thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government have identified 17 categories of highly polluting industries for taking priority action for their compliance of the prescribed standards. They were given a deadline of 31-12-1993 for complying with the standards. As on 31-12-1993, out of 1541 units in the large and medium sectors, 1075 units have installed requisite pollution control systems while 346 units were at various stages of installation of the same. Out of the remaining 120 units, 50 units have not taken any steps to instal the requisite pollution control devices and 70 units were reported to be closed.

After the status was reviewed by the Government, the Central Pollution Control Board had issued the following directions to all the State Pollution Control Boards and the Pollution Control Committees of the Union Territories :

(i) They shall verify the identified wilful defaulters from the 17 highly polluting categories of industries, who have not taken any steps to instal adequate pollution control equipments

(ii) They shall examine the bona fide cases and determine the time required by each of the units for completion of the pollution control programme on a case to case basis and give them a time frame for such completion;

(iii) Immediate legal action shall be initiated against identified wilful defaulters.

महाराष्ट्र और गुजरात में वन भूमि को नियमित किया जाना

5588. **श्री अनन्त राय देवशंकर दवे**: क्या **पर्यावरण और वन** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार ने महाराष्ट्र और गुजरात सरकार से दोनों राज्यों में वन भूमि के नियमन हेतु कोई स्पष्टीकरण मांगें हैं ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उक्त राज्यों द्वारा दिये गये स्पष्टीकरणों का ब्यौरा क्या है ;

(ग) इस संबंध में केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा क्या कार्यवाही की गई ;

(घ) सरकार द्वारा गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान महाराष्ट्र और गुजरात में कुल कितने हैक्टेयर वन भूमि को नियमित किया गया ; और

(ङ) क्या राज्य सरकारों ने इस तरह नियमित की गई वन भूमि के लिये कोई वैकल्पिक भूमि उपलब्ध कराई है ; और यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण है ?

पर्यावरण और वन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री कमल नाथ) : (क) वन भूमि पर अवैध कब्जों को नियमित करने के लिये वन (संरक्षण) अधिनियम 1980 के अन्तर्गत प्राप्त प्रस्तावों के संबंध में महाराष्ट्र और गुजरात राज्य सरकारों से कतिपय जरूरी सूचना मांगी गई है जो पहले प्राप्त नहीं हुई थी।

(ख) यह सूचना अभी तक नहीं मिली है।

(ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

(घ) गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान वन भूमि पर अवैध कब्जों को नियमित करने के लिये वन (संरक्षण) अधिनियम 1980 के तहत कोई मंजूरी नहीं दी गई है।

(ङ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Closure of factories to protect Taj Mahal

5589. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to close down the glass factories in Firozabad in UP to protect Taj Mahal for fear of further damage from possible pollution emanating from these factories;

(b) whether in view of Taj Mahal having been included in the World Heritage Category any financial assistance is received from abroad for protecting this monument;

(c) if so, whether Government would explore other means to save Taj Mahal without disturbing thousands of workers who earn their livelihood from these factories; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and what steps Government propose to take to provide them with alternate jobs ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a), (c) and (d) The Hon'ble Supreme Court vide its order dated October 27, 1993 had ordered the closure of 212 industries which have not installed Air Pollution Control devices in the Agra-Mathura region, till such time as adequate measures are taken by the units. These industries include some glass factories of Firozabad in U.P.

Government have initiated a number of programmes to improve the air quality in Agra-Mathura region which are being implemented through various Ministries like Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Ministry of Surface Transport, Archaeological Survey of India, Ministry of Industry and the Government of Uttar Pradesh.

(b) No, Sir.

Discharging of effluents by M/s Arooran Sugar Distillery

5590. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that M/s. Arooran Sugar Distillery in Tamil Nadu is presently discharging untreated factory effluents to Cooleroon and Manniyar rivers daily;

(b) if so, what is the capacity of the factory and also how much effluent do the factory produce;

(c) whether effluent treatment plant has been installed in the factory;

(d) if so, what is its capacity;

(e) how many periodical inspections of the plant were conducted during the past three years, year-wise figures;

(f) how many samples were taken and tested during this period with details of each test; and

(g) what steps being taken to see that no untreated effluent is discharged by the factory into these rivers in future ?